



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
GUNNISON FIELD OFFICE
210 West Spencer Street
Gunnison, CO 81230
www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/gfo.html

In Reply Refer To: 1610 (COS06000)
Date: 3/16/2015

Dear Interested Party,

The Bureau of Land Management Gunnison Field Office is currently developing a proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment and associated Environmental Impact Statement to assess livestock grazing on 16 grazing allotments on about 115,000 acres in Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray and San Juan counties. The grazing allotments are currently on a 10-year schedule for grazing permit renewal analysis.

Stakeholders, BLM personnel and other federal, state and local agencies have identified some preliminary issues for the plan amendment including: Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep population health, domestic sheep grazing, socio-economics, riparian area conditions, noxious weeds, Canada lynx habitat, Gunnison Sage-grouse habitat, and upland soils. The BLM is soliciting your comments and ideas for these and any other potential issues.

The Gunnison Field Office will be hosting, three public open house meetings to discuss the project area and any issues or comments. Those meetings will be held in Lake City on Thursday, April 2, 2015 at the Lake City Visitor Center from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm; in Gunnison on Wednesday, April 6, 2015 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Gunnison BLM Field Office; and in Montrose on Thursday, May 7, 2015 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Montrose BLM Field Office. Your comments will assist in developing alternatives by identifying issues that should be addressed as part of the analysis process. You do not need to attend the public meetings to provide comments.

If you wish to continue to be an interested party, please identify your interest and return your comments to this office. Scoping comments and issues pertaining to the effects of domestic livestock grazing should be submitted by Friday, May 22, 2015 via mail to the Gunnison Field Office, Attn: Kristi Murphy, 210 W Spencer St, Suite A, Gunnison, CO 81230, by email to blm_co_gfo_nepa_comments@blm.gov or fax to 970-642-4990. Submitting comments during this scoping period will establish standing for BLM appeals (43CFR 4.410).

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your

personal identifying information— may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elijah Waters". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elijah Waters

Acting Field Manager

Gunnison Field Office